From: <u>Durant, Jennah</u>
To: <u>R6Press</u>

Subject: Daily News Digest, Tuesday, September 5
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 10:41:11 AM

Attachments: Daily News Digest 090517.pdf

Hurricane coverage:

1 — Harvey causes chemical companies to release 1 million pounds of extra air pollutants, Texas Tribune, 9/4/2017

https://www.texastribune.org/2017/09/04/harvey-causes-chemical-companies-release-1-million-pounds-extra-air-po/

Oil refineries and chemical plants across the Texas Gulf Coast released more than 1 million pounds of dangerous air pollutants in the week after Harvey struck, according to public regulatory filings aggregated by the Center for Biological Diversity.

2 — Residents concerned about flooding at Superfund sites in wake of Harvey, CBS News, 9/4/2017

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/superfund-sites-residents-concerned-wake-of-harvey/ More than a week after Harvey raked across southeast Texas, drone footage shows the floodwaters still surrounding the San Jacinto Superfund site -- where toxic dioxins from an old paper plant could have leaked.

3 — Residents return around Arkema plant, told to drink bottled water, ABC Houston, 9/4/2017

http://abc13.com/watch-live-residents-speak-out-over-arkema-plant/2372451/

Arkema gave notice of the lifted evacuation order early Monday morning after consulting with officials monitoring the scene. For now, though, residents are also advised to use protective clothing and drink bottled water until further notice.

4 — Air quality remains concern in aftermath of Harvey, KPRC, 9/4/2017

https://www.click2houston.com/news/air-quality-remains-concern-in-aftermath-of-harvey
The Environmental Protection Agency is circling back on its monitoring of the quality of
Houston's air after releasing a statement Sunday saying that "local residents should not be
concerned about air quality issues related to the effects of the storm."

5 — Environmental concerns persist across Harvey-ravaged Texas cities. Here's what you should know today., Texas Tribune, 9/4/2017

https://www.texastribune.org/2017/09/04/environmental-concerns-persist-across-storm-ravaged-texas-cities-heres/

^{*}Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.

^{*}To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.

As efforts to rebuild have slowly begun in areas hit hard by Hurricane Harvey, officials continue to warn of lingering environmental hazards, including the health risks posed by receding floodwater.

6 — Houston's Environmental Threats Come Into Focus, Wall Street Journal, 9/4/2017 https://www.wsj.com/articles/houstons-environmental-threats-come-into-focus-1504554072 Water is subsiding in flooded neighborhoods, the mayor is insisting Houston "is open for business," and shelters are emptying out, but Texans returning to flood-damaged homes face plenty of obstacles: the threat of toxic pollutants in the air and drinking water, and even hungry, dislocated animals seeking shelter.

7— Harvey began with raging winds, but its legacy will be water, Houston Chronicle, 9/4/17

http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/texas/article/Harvey-began-with-raging-winds-but-its-legacy-12172753.php

Hurricane Harvey began with raging winds, but its legacy will be water. Seemingly endless, relentlessly insidious water — a staggering 40 inches or more that swamped parts of Houston in just five days. The water — and the muck and mold that follow — will create misery that will linger for years and likely cost tens of billions of dollars all told.

8 — Beaumont's running water starts to flow but hard-hit Texas city may feel Harvey effects 'for years to come', PBS, 9/4/17

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/beaumonts-running-water-starts-flow-hard-hit-texas-city-may-feel-harvey-effects-years-come/

Beaumont, Texas, is among the state's cities that were hardest hit by Hurricane Harvey. Beaumont Police Department Chief James Singletary gives an update on restoring running water to residents and how the storm has affected the community.

9 — EDITORIAL: Time to clean up the San Jacinto waste pits, Houston Chronicle, 9/4/17 http://www.chron.com/opinion/editorials/article/Time-to-clean-up-the-San-Jacinto-waste-pits-12172298.php

Nowhere is the risk from flooding more worrisome than the San Jacinto waste pits, which sit between the communities of Highlands and Channelview. One of the San Jacinto waste pits, covered by a temporary armored cap, was partially submerged in the river even before Hurricane Harvey. Now they're totally engulfed.

Other news:

10— Judge Won't Let Texas and EPA Delay Air Cleanup Again, Courthouse News Service, 9/4/17

http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/texas/article/Harvey-began-with-raging-winds-but-

its-legacy-12172753.php

The Trump administration cannot put off a plan to curb air pollution from Texas power plants until 2019, a federal judge ruled, refusing to further delay a process that's dragged on for nearly a decade.

11— EPA eyes limits for agricultural chemical linked to crop damage, Reuters, 9/5/17

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-pesticides-epa-exclusive/exclusive-epa-eyes-limits-for-agricultural-chemical-linked-to-crop-damage-idUSKCN1BG1GT

The U.S. environmental agency is considering banning sprayings of the agricultural herbicide dicamba after a set deadline next year, according to state officials advising the agency on its response to crop damage linked to the weed killer.

12— OPINION: Don't delay methane regulations, Albuquerque Journal, 9/3/17

https://www.abqjournal.com/1057727/dont-delay-methane-regulations.html

With the ongoing expansion of drilling in our state these necessary, common-sense and low-cost rules are more crucial than ever.

13— As Houston grew, officials ignored 'once-in-a-lifetime' chance to spare thousands from flooding, Dallas Morning News, 9/5/17

https://www.dallasnews.com/news/harvey/2017/09/05/houston-grew-officials-ignored-lifetime-chance-spare-thousands-flooding

In a report dated May 1996, engineers for the Harris County Flood Control District concluded the area's reservoir system was severely insufficient and imperiled thousands of properties. The report's authors proposed a \$400 million fix: constructing a conduit - an underground channel - that would carry water out of the reservoirs and into the Houston Ship Channel more quickly.

14— Irma strengthens to Category 5 storm as it nears Caribbean, AP, 9/5/17

http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2017/sep/05/irma-strengthens-category-5-storm-it-nears-caribbe/?f=latest

Hurricane Irma strengthened into a dangerous Category 5 storm Tuesday as it roared toward the northeast Caribbean on a path that could take it to the United States.

15— Small oil spill in Mississippi River near Braithwaite, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 9/5/17

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/09/small_oil_spill_in_mississippi.html Between 10 and 20 barrels of high sulphur fuel oil was spilled into the Mississippi River late Sunday (Sept. 3), causing a strong odor of diesel in the Belle Chasse and Braithwaite areas overnight, according the officials with Plaquemines Parish.

16— False River set for drawdown, more dredging, in bid to restore oxbow lake's health, Baton Rouge Advocate, 9/2/17

 $\frac{http://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/communities/westside/article_c2803596-8f28-11e7-80b1-2fec94c4ea63.html}{}$

Still struggling to restore the health of ailing False River, the Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury is about to draw down the water level of the oxbow lake for the third time for more dredging.